(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Disinclination to extend financial support by international agencies

361. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many international banks and funding agencies have shown disinclination to extend financial support to the power projects in the country drawn up by the NHPC;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to address the objections and problems raised by international funding agencies?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) No international bank or funding agency has shown disinclination to extend financial support to power projects of National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC).

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Status of Omkareshwar Power Project

362. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Omkareshwar Power Project;

(b) whether it is a fact that prinicipal financier to the project Deutsche Bank is in the process of withdrawing from the project; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) The Omkareshwar Project in Madhya Pradesh is a multi-purpose project with an overall installed capacity of 520 MW. The project was approved for implementation by the Narmada Hydroelectric Development Corporation Limited (NHDC) (a Joint Ventre of Government of Madhya Pradesh and the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd.) in May, 2003. The project, which is scheduled for commissioning in February 2008, is presently under initial stages of construction.